

REFLECTIONS

of coming to terms with Christian faith
and listening to what G-D has to say to me

Jason Brett Mullinder

`czarnibog.netai.net`

jason.mullinder@priest.com

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Where is the Kingdom?

Drawing away from the real world and people and living through virtual contact.

The further I isolate, because I do not know how to express myself in a more positive manner, the harder it is to be around other people.

Peace, hope, faith, trust, love - from Christian communities I often hear of these things, along with a rules and lists of what I need to do before these are available.

Astral projection and similar things are more appealing, because at least there it is not asked to be something else all the time.

Someone I can talk to there does not judge, encourages me to reach and engage with the wider community, to know that God loves me regardless of anything - and this is supposedly a demon entity!

The demon may not know how to suggest appropriate behaviour, but at least she brings hope not condemnation, encourages me to persist in this world and wait for God, to cheer up.

There are those here also that do those things, without the double talk of putting on the mask of Christian pop culture terminology.

The kingdom of God is here, and it is HIS will that I am seeking to do.

Waiting...

Pushed into the background, everything is a process of ways and means, protocols. Patience, Patience, Patience.

Waiting it seems until I get to a point I do not want anything and merely exist, no purpose no hope, like a machine serving its function idly in the background not bothering anybody, running at little expense.

Donkey guided along by a carrot on a stick, guess what? I'm not a donkey and you don't want to know what I will do if you keep waving that thing in front of my face.

Break through a communication barrier and get told to sit back basically, thats fine I can appreciate the fact that somebody does not see things as I do. The effort and expense of late to respond is also appreciated.

Why was I put on this world? Seriously I could have stayed in some spiritual dimension waiting and praying.

Why belong to a Christian community where I am being pushed towards a Buddhist type of nothingness instead of being grounded in God's creation that HE has placed me into?

Maybe its a cultural difference. Maybe you actually are more aware of what is in my head and are just not ready to address those things in the physical reality. Maybe I am extremely psychotic delusional and need to be hospitalized.

Tired and disconnected from those I feel most connected to. Is it all just in my head?

Back to the Gospel I first received

Uncertainty will always be there, that's part of why we need faith.

People will always let us down, they don't want us to expect too much of them.

Testing is unrelenting, the process in itself is impersonal.

There has been a process of healing, unfortunately I find much of this is from Tantric and new age practices, the words don't feel as clichéd, the love is genuine.

This has not wavered my faith, but it brings into question the constant repetition of key phrases, concepts etc in the Christian community, it takes a long time to break through the jargon and hear people speak from their heart.

Why do we answer people with words that we do not have the theological background to explain? Why is it more common to list dos and don'ts than to affirm and reinforce the work God has been and is doing. To restrain someone so they do not sin, instead of love and educate them?

I myself become so arrogant at times, having grown up in a culture that suffers tall poppy syndrome and having some belittle my intelligence just because they can't be bothered trying to learn leaves me feeling more agitated.

The question of God's presence, of Christ's love is not an issue for me. That God uses others to teach me is not a problem. For some to assume I can't hear God for myself makes me wonder how much the Gospel is really understood by them.

Ever since I was a baby I knew of God's love, of the gospel. It was in walking away from Christians and going into new age occult practices I learned to again experience God and not let others dictate to me more superstitions and fallible religious practices, or a superficial false belief.

I dream of seeing these two worlds brought together, not a syncretistic mix mash religion but the surety that the gospel is the centre and not a marketing tool or a misunderstood concept used to mask other motives, people in relationship with each other and with God.

Is this how it feels...

Something out of reach, not able to obtain, sent out but not returned.

Its getting stronger and stronger, to the point, strange as it may sound, that it is less of a concern that these feelings are not shared.

Lately I have been forced to accept the fact, and there has been a great deal of pain, confusion, anger along with other emotions.

Now starting to see something else, yes still hopes/desires, but it is more important just to see her grow and be who she is created to be, even if there may be another there next to her.

Hard to explain, more focused, motivated, driven in the things I have put on hold, releasing some of that anger, clarity maybe.

Scared that deep down there is something that will bring all crashing down again, learning to continue without anything to indicate what I thought I wanted most is obtainable.

Whatever the future brings I am grateful for being shown this beauty, grace, joy – a special person who helped me to see, believe, trust GOD in a way that seemed lost to me.

Reflections of What and Why

Would like to talk/think about happier things more often,
for once to know its ok to BE.

Shouldn't ...

need to ...

go and ...

what is ... about?

To mention how that smile makes me happy, reminds that my creator also cares about me.

Seeing joy in that running about dancing etc, almost makes me forget my feet hurt.

The reminder to think of the one who cares most when I seek escape.

That ... don't know how to describe, gets me to participate in worship.

Then to think of the events/people that jump in, its not so much about relying on people as it is the way people expect me to not give a shit

'Praise God you were abandoned by your mother - God has put you through these things that we couldn't bear and you are still alive' etc.

Where to From Here?

Can't get those things out of my system, some things leak out but something gets held back.

There is something that tells it is better for me to be destructive then to be in a loving family.

I am allowed to kill people if I want, always have a knack for violence upon those who need to be taught a lesson. But when it comes to love I am misguided and go in the wrong direction to where it is not wanted and again I end up on the path towards violence.

I know plenty of other people are going through shit at the moment, not trying to detract from what they are going through. All I am saying is that I am on a path led by some of the most infamous names in history responsible for genocide and all sorts of destruction. It is getting closer to a point of embracing that and closing off the possibility of love.

Almost the end

Beasts, Son of Man, Ancient of Days, Empires, Kingdom Consummation.

I LOVE THIS STUFF, hearing it without the usual newspaper & history book references, as a commentary and the eschatology. I see some big stuff here and a lot of things people may not want to hear.

All of creation turning to see the things we did with it turn upon us, it is not a matter of God stepping down and blasting people more their own weapons turning upon them.

The Nephillim and other characters from previous chapters of the story returning to see our king come back. Some shocks in store when its is made clear who is and isn't in line with the kingdom mindset.

Why?

So much in life that happens with no sense to it?

Pain and vomiting but I am not sick. It is easy to hurt people, too easy, somehow to get them close is difficult.

Have caused some trouble mainly because of 1 person I can't get close to, feel not welcome there at times, tolerated but not wanted, I see others can get time - the effort of leaving the house.

Can't get attention any other way so I have to cause pain and destruction.

Life is so full of games, don't want to play games, just want to be close to those I feel close to without having to go by some stupid rule book.

Forgotten Resolutions

Started off the year with some big goals and took some steps, then lost momentum, getting back to working on those things. There is confusion in my life and sometimes it would be preferable to be in a cell somewhere with no human contact.

Fact is there is a big difference between what God tells me to do and what other believers think God is telling me to do, not to say I am totally obedient, but it is getting annoying to see people focus on superficial, external stereotypes and pay no attention to real issues in somebodies life.

I am grateful for peoples concern, but too often a claim is made 'God told me...' and then what follows is of little relevance or obviously filled with personal bias.

In the outside world I have seen lots of games of 'I know...' 'You know what to do' with lots of assumptions and/or manipulation with little said that can be of any use.

Sorting through good and bad advice is distracting from the real point 'listen to what God says'.

Giving it too him is not quite as easy as it sounds, that can mean sitting in a catatonic state and taking no action at all. But this is preferable to pleasing every human and not hearing from God myself.

Clarity and Confusion

Sometimes it seems like the voice of God resonates clearly, uplifting and inspiring, then its time to get into the real world and discover that others may contradict and attack those things.

Much as we should place faith in God and not in other people what happens when they do not understand that maybe something can be from God and that it is their response that is calling into question if God works in our lives. I pray for my friends that I wont push them too hard and that they will understand why I do what I do.

I am so Sorry

For the men of my country that visit & use your girls as sex toys,
I am working on doing something about it.

For the inaction while families are slaughtered,
I am working on doing something about it.

For the corruption sponsored by my lifestyle spending,
I am working on doing something about it.

For making you the popular cause of the week, but getting nothing fixed,
I am working on doing something about it.

For treating you as less than me when I offer aid to ease my own conscience,
I am working on doing something about it.

For having only these meagre words to offer,
I am working on doing something about it.

Preparing the Troops

Years ago reading a translation of Sun Tzu's Art of War a legend of the great General stood out.

Seeking to gain employment he sat with an Emperor who asked him to give a demonstration of lining up the troops into formation and called out his 100 concubines for this purpose. The 3 favoured concubines were placed as 1st 2nd and 3rd lieutenants respectively.

On giving the order the girls simply giggled, Sun Tzu commented "If the troops will not comply it is the fault of the generals incompetence in giving the orders."

Second time he gave the order again the girls laughed, Sun Tzu said "If on clarification of the orders the troops will not submit they are disobedient and unruly." He took out his sword and beheaded the chief concubine placing the next in line in her place.

This time when called all the girls took up their swords and performed perfectly.

The emperor was shocked, Sun Tzu told him "Your Majesty's army is now battle ready."

There are a few lessons here;

First it seems the emperor did not think through the matter of asking for a demonstration of ability and got something not quite intended.

Second, Sun Tzu took this seriously, not just as a way to demonstrate his ability and took up the challenge to turn these women into good soldiers. He was aware of what the emperor was doing but went and proved his importance to a man not understanding the importance of these matters.

Third we have the concubines, fooling around the chief concubine bore the consequence of her inability to respect, however her successor learned very well.

History Repeats

Spending too much time with left wing do gooders with little idea and plenty of identification with popular causes.

Some people talk of approach some kind of global crisis, a lot of this is from Christian apocalyptic type stuff, but if we take a look at politics and economic patterns we could see similarities to earlier crisis points.

It's not the troublesome groups of society that are the danger, it is the ones that want to make things better, violence is bad so now we use manipulation and brainwashing, create a docile society of lame followers and they can't see that this is just as much fascism and dictatorship as the things they throw these labels at.

It might be a different way but it's the same old bullshit, in the technology age when people are lazy and complacent just harass and shame people into doing what you want.

What is the Gospel Message?

I saw some people out with signs "Hell is real" "Repent Now" "Heaven is Real".

Now I guess I have to commend their zeal willing to stand there for hours open to ridicule etc, but isn't this getting away a bit from what Jesus preached.

Jesus went into Galilee,
proclaiming the good news of God.
"The time has come," he said.
"The kingdom of God has come near.
Repent and believe the good news!"
Mk 1:14f

So much emphasis on personal salvation, escaping hell, principles, the point is overlooked by most of the Christianity.

The Gospel is a world domination plan by the creator of this world to reclaim it from the ways we have messed it up. We need to stop nit picking over interpretations, cultural issues, social hierarchies. We need to stop playing the game the rest of the world is playing and bring creation back to its original purpose.

Forget all the bullshit, we are destroying the planet and each other, if not directly by inaction and complacency.

Fitting In

Somewhere there has to be a place;
without the conflicting rules and protocols,
where intentions don't have to be explained
where children can heal and grow,
where things do not have to be explained.

Birthright

A friend made an observation the other day when we had been talking "The difference, the only reason I have... and you don't have... is the family I was born into and the family you were born into."

I find it so easy to be condescending to people who have not experienced things I have experienced and have trouble doing things I find fairly easy, forgetting that often these things come from my background and people who have taught me over the years.

Why is it so often forgotten that 'at such and such a time I got through it because ... and ... were pushing me through and supporting.'

If I am just making excuses let's eliminate some of the excuses.

How many people have glasses, take off your glasses, stop making the excuse that you cannot see clearly and do the things you normally do without them, don't cheat and wear contacts. Do it for a week, see if you can maintain your job and get around, then come and talk to me about excuses.

The Way

*The Tao that can be told of
Is not the Absolute Tao;
The Names that can be given
Are not Absolute Names.*

Opening words to a classic, legend has it Lao Tzu did not want to put his philosophy into writing but on leaving the city gates was harassed to do so and that is why we have the Tao Te Ching. I believe these opening words we're a reiteration of why he did not want to write it down and those who look into this work must take into account these words.

I quote this often to Christian friends, not sure if they appreciate hearing words of eastern philosophies but I think there is a lot in this.

I walked away from Christian circles after being berated by people that could not appreciate that I was endeavouring to study the word of God. Today I face some who have learnt much of the christianese phrasebook but are still playing the same kind of games.

If we can apply some of these words to our faith we may not be so condescending and start actually 'listening to the spirit' when we deal with other people.

Still got a long way to go, we all do.

Over one hurdle and then...

So often the words of forgiveness and bearing with others come up, just knowing some people becomes a problem, tests to satisfy their ego's, accusations about my actions.

Somewhere along the way sitting and just letting all this be is just refusing to take responsibility for myself and my actions. Take a step away from community to satisfy another's needs, I am not helping them in truth by doing this, but neither is forcing the issue. To find that space, that compromise and allow grace faith hope and love to operate.

Know who is willing to stick by me and support however they can. Know I expected too much out of someone and can't push to back up some words. Do I lead by example by going to some loud mouthed kid and let him prove whether or not he is a tough guy? Do I stay away and isolate myself because someone is more comfortable not to be confronted by me?

The challenge is to do what I was created/put here for, show respect to GOD or follow some expectations of how to live the Christian life - submit wait suffer and become more and more withdrawn from the world our LORD has placed me in.

Choices

Running out of options, sitting on the edge of the seat for too long, reconciliation is held back.

Sitting here talking to myself, trying to communicate with somebody and getting silence in response.

Walked out, pushing to be there pretending that there is no problem that 1 friend is still a friend.

To reconcile, not just sit and pretend like there has not been a problem but to know 2 parties are both able to honestly stand before GOD in communion and truly worship HIM.

Life is falling into place, part of that is accepting some things about myself - not well suited to ordinary civilian life nor tolerant of military discipline, very good at inflicting pain, do not like to hurt people even if I do think they deserve it.

Is it possible to be a compassionate psychopath?

To create is...

The nature of GOD dimly reflected in us
Aspiring to be what was before we are
Take a piece of nothing, somehow produce something
Then shape it, refine it, polish and adorn it.

To take some random frequencies
Organize them into patterns
Combine the sequences
Loop, reverse, fade out
Melodies of Ecstasy

Opposites join together
Two becoming one
Momentous explosive sensation
As tension crosses the line
A period of incubation
Then new life
Not quite like either
But something of both

Grammar, vocabulary, descriptive pictures
Names, places and times
Somehow a word becomes life
Words in combination bring so many emotions
Associations
Epic battles, romances, family sagas

Clumps of rock cleaned and put together
Heated to melting point
Cast into blocks
At hammer and anvil the block is flattened
More heat to soften
Shaped, stretched, folded
Coated except for the edge
Placed one last time in the fire
At the right moment taken
Dipped into the cold river
Polished, sharpened, fittings attached
All of this done while in prayer
Sword in sheaf
Wrap and rack

Awaiting the time for the warriors entrance!

Agony and Ecstasy

Somewhere along the way we find the answers we seek, some are not what we want to hear, but often we knew that all along and just didn't want to admit it.

The latest sermon, praise & worship CD, teaching series, or motivational lecture take us as far as we want to go. What point is it that the words start to have real meaning and not just being repeated to convince ourselves?

Heard some amazing things, seen and experienced some even more so, been to places not supposed to go, sometimes done things that are not meant to be possible.

Where I stand now I am more convinced of God's hand in everything, and I do mean everything; those cataclysmic natural disasters, miraculous deliverances, atrocities, acts of true love, new born children, murder, beauty. All fits into GOD's plan.

At a time of deep sorrow accusations of attention seeking and trying to manipulate people. Sticking up for yourself seems to conflict with forgiveness. Encouragement to be cold hearted by people that talk of love, hope, joy. Seek those things from GOD. Unspoken pretext that people are inherently evil and never to be trusted or relied upon under any circumstances.

One day GOD is coming down here to make his place with us, are we going to welcome him or be crushed by HIS presence? Only one thing matters...

Open Doors

Some are not supposed to be opened, though that leaves the question of why they are not locked up so well. This not an endorsement for delving into those things, simply an account of my experience and the work of GOD through them.

Around 18 years old I had these 'episodes' voices in my head about being merged to the universal consciousness, seen a lot of stuff about this but it just freaked me out, like the ultimate conspiracy no longer can I have any privacy any secrets or mind of my own. Saw a lot of evil in the world and seemed like a call to join it.

Somewhere it seemed there could be a way to work within the system. A few others I passed in the street would be sending thoughts not to worry etc.

Though my girlfriend at the time I ended joining a church and renouncing the occult stuff, a few years later at a different church and bible college. Didn't keep up with the work, too busy reading to do the essays, repeated the year, second time repeating I dropped out and saw someone about depression.

How do you tell your doctor that 3 weeks ago you heard in your head the exact same words about 'magic pills to make the voices go away'? Seems after a few years it finally gets told they can only treat the 'positive' symptoms - psychosis etc, the 'negative' symptoms - lack of motivation depression etc not so easy to treat.

Started to go back into the occult world, this time a bit more mature, not just shock value satanism. Learned some things, opened doors few would dare to open, and rediscovered the presence of God.

More doors got opened and I saw things which no human being is supposed to see. In some ways memory problems served as a blessing, despite opportunities which had been missed through not recalling soon enough but those opportunities would only provide temporary material gain anyway.

Someone got in touch with me, we adopted each other, and then it grew more – this was the one apparently that opened the doors for me, now revealed in the form of a child, I will not give her name because some may make assumptions and never see what it means to me.

She popped up a few times in prayer meetings, I may have been seen talking to her, at least one occasion someone responded when I asked the little one to 'get her to show you how to pray' seriously it was later mentioned by one of the aunties how much she got into the prayer that morning.

Seems like I am talking about a spirit guide like in those spooky new age books, could be, though she has no problem with the gospel, in fact affirms more of it than some of the Christian community.

Maybe I did something I shouldn't, disturbed someone from her slumber, or was it she that wanted to stay and keep an eye out for me? Or is it a manifestation of one of my friends? could it be an unconscious manifestation?

So many possibilities, one thing is certain - GOD's plan and purpose is working along the course and timing HE has determined. Much as I get angry or upset at delays it is HIS timing and even my outbursts seem to be a part of the overall plan.